

## REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office action dated September 19, 2006. Claims 1-28 are pending in the application. No new matter has been added. The Examiner's reconsideration of the rejection in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

By the Office Action, claims 1-6, 9-16, 19-26 and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,528,511 to Hasegawa (hereinafter Hasegawa) in view of U.S. Patent Application No. 2003/0200194 to Arnold et al. (hereinafter Arnold).

The Applicant respectfully disagrees with the rejection.

Hasegawa is directed to a system that verifies delay times in logic circuits. If a signal input to a logic circuit is not properly timed the logic circuit may yield an incorrect result. The system of Hasegawa provides verification that the delay time is correct to ensure that the logic circuit operates correctly. While Hasegawa includes an invalidness specifier 20, this module specifies which of the rise or fall transitions is valid so that a verifier can assess the correct delay time. This is completely different from the present invention as claimed.

For example, claim 1 includes, *inter alia*, storing an object in a plurality of storage elements, in response to a request to update the object, determining a future invalidation time when the object should be invalidated in storage elements currently storing the object; and delaying updating the object until the invalidation time has passed. These features are not disclosed or suggested by Hasegawa, and Arnold does not cure the deficiencies of Hasegawa.

Notwithstanding the above, the Applicant believes that the rejection can be overcome by disqualifying Arnold as a reference under 35 U.S.C. §103(c). §103(c) applies to obviousness rejection under §103(a), and a reference may be disqualified if the present application and the reference were both at the time of invention owned by the same entity (see MPEP 706.02(I)). It is the burden of the Applicant to provide sufficient evidence to disqualify the reference. In this case, both Arnold and the present application were commonly and wholly owned and/or subject to assignment to the IBM Corporation, Armonk NY. A statement of common ownership consistent with MPEP 706(I)(2) is provided to disqualify the reference.

#### **COMMON OWNERSHIP**

The present application serial number 10/715, 260 and Arnold (U.S. Patent Application No. 2003/00200194 A1) were, at the time invention of serial number 10/715, 260 was made, owned by or under obligation of assignment to IBM Corporation, Armonk NY.

The above statement is believed to be sufficient to overcome the rejection 103(a) rejection. (See MPEP 706(I)(2)). Additional evidence for the above statement may be found on the face of Arnold and the assignment records of the present case. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-28 are in condition for allowance for at least the reasons stated. Reconsideration of the rejection is earnestly solicited.

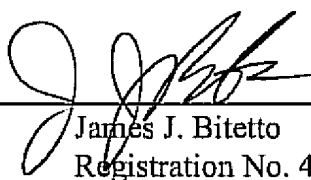
The Applicant notes with appreciation the allowability of claims 7, 8, 17, 18 and 27 if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any

intervening claims. However, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all the claims now pending in the application are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration of the case is respectfully requested.

It is believed that no additional fees or charges are currently due. However, in the event that any additional fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the application, they may be charged to applicant's IBM Deposit Account No. 50-0510.

Respectfully submitted,

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